

# Enthronement Prayer to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

## Preparation

Set aside a sacred place in the home (such as a mantel) where the image or statue of the Sacred Heart will be placed at the end of the prayer. At the start of the prayer, place the image/statue where the family or group can gather around it, such as a low table. Light a candle to signify the presence of Christ among you. Assign the roles of Leader and Reader.

## Ceremony

**Leader:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

**Reader:** The Lord spoke to us through the prophet, Ezekiel, saying, "I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts" (Ezekiel 36:26).

**Leader:** Lord, as we draw near to you, we remember our sins. We are sorry for all the times we have offended you or ignored your love. Lord, have mercy on us.

**All:** Christ, have mercy on us.

**Leader:** Lord, have mercy on us.

**All:** Take away our stony hearts, Lord, and give us new hearts, clean and responsive to you.

**Reader:** At the last supper, Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." (John 15:12)

**Leader:** Father, make our hearts like Jesus' Heart - full of love.

**All:** Give us love for one another – and also for our neighbors.

**Reader:** As Jesus hung on the cross, his Heart was pierced. John wrote: "One soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out." (John 19:34)

**Leader:** At that moment, the Church was born. Jesus, you asked all people to be born again by the blood of your sacrifice and the water of Baptism.

**All:** Remind us, Lord, that as we are born again of water and blood, we are all members of God's family, the Church.

**Reader:** Jesus stood up and exclaimed, "Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as scripture says, "Rivers of living water will flow from within him." (John 7:37-38)

**Leader:** Fulfill this promise in us, Jesus. Fill us with the living waters of your Holy Spirit.

**All:** Let us share your Spirit with one another and with everyone we meet.

**Reader:** They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way, and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

**Leader:** Jesus, you are the incarnate Word of God. You reveal the Father to the whole world.

**All:** Give us love for your Word, Lord. Give us light to understand it in our hearts.

(If married people are not present, skip the bracketed sequence below.)

**[Reader:** St. Paul exhorted husbands and wives to love each other, "...even as Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her." (Ephesians 5:35).]

**Leader:** Lord, strengthen the bond of marriage of those here who are married. Always faithful to one another and open to life, let them be one as you are one with your Church.

**All:** Keep them joyful in their love, Lord.]

**Reader:** St. Luke describes how the child Jesus lived with his parents in Nazareth where he was obedient to them....and Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and Man." (Luke 2:51-52)

**Leader:** Jesus, you asked the children to come to you. Call each of our children to a close friendship with you.

**All:** We are all children, Lord. Help us to honor our parents and obey them in love.

**Reader:** Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

**Leader:** We ask you to give special grace to those who are fragile, elderly, disabled or sick.

**All:** Help us remember that we all have needs. Let our needs lead us to rely on you for everything. Let us also support and care for one another.

**Reader:** St. Paul wrote, "I urge you therefore...by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1)

**Leader:** Jesus, you give yourself to us as a living sacrifice each time we receive you in the Eucharist.

**All:** In grateful response, we give ourselves to you again this moment. Let us do so each time we receive Communion. Remind us to continue to offer you each day, even each hour, so that your perfect will may be done in each of our lives.

**Reader:** St. Paul prayed: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, that you, rooted and grounded in love, may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:17-19)

**Leader:** We offer you our whole family, including those who cannot be here today.

**All:** Lord Jesus Christ, come live in the hearts of every member of our family. Increase our love and understanding of your Sacred Heart.

**Leader:** Let us honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He suffered for us because he loved us. Let him be the King of our home.

**All:** Jesus, King of our hearts, we worship you.

(Leader or another person places the image/statue in its place of honor. The family may worship by singing a hymn, kneeling, joining hands, or in another way that seems fitting.)

**Leader:** I thank God for each one of you. I thank God for this family. Let us go in peace, resting now and always in the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**All:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.